GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:190
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2002
TEXTILE POLICY
JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to bring about changes in the textile policy;

(b) if so, by when;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the measures being taken by the Union Government to promote textile industry in Rajasthan ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR)

(a) to (c) Since the National Textile Policyhas been announced only in November, 2000, it is too early to bring out any changes in the Policy.

(d) Government has been taking several steps to strengthen and promote textile and clothing industry in the Country including Rajasthan. Some of the important initiatives are:

(i) Government has dereserved the woven segment of readymade garment industry from the SSI sector.

(ii) A provision of Rs. 10 crores has been earmarked in the B.E. 2001-02 for creating clusters of excellence, i.e. apparel parks for production and export of garments. Besides, a provision of Rs. 15 crores has also been made in B.E. 2001-02 for scheme for improvement of infrastructure facilities at major textile production centers.

(iii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1.4.1999 for a period of 5 years, ie. up to 31.03.2004 to facilitate the modernization and upgradation of this sector. An Inter Ministerial Committee to resolve the issues pertaining to assistance under TUFS has been constituted. Progress of the TUFS as on 31.12.2001 is given below:

	No.of Applications Received	Total Cost of Project applic-ations	Sanctioned No.of applic-ations	Amount	Disbursed No.of	Amount
All India (including Rajasthan)	1402	13464.15	1171	5012.25	892	3166.62

(iv) Weaving, processing and garment machinery, which are covered under TUFS, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%.

(v) To improve the availability of cotton at reasonable prices, the Government has launched Technology Mission for Cotton consisting of 4 mini missions during 1999-2000 for a period of five years.

(vi) Government has set up 44 Powerloom Service Centres (PSCs) to provide training, consultancy, design development support,

textile testing and information about the lates technology in weaving etc. for the benefit of the powerloom sector. Out of these 44 PSCs, 21 PSCs are presently under modernization of their loom and other training facilities at an estimated cost of Rs. 16 crore during the 9th Five Year Plan period for better training on hi-tech looms to powerloom weavers/owners.

(vii) Government has taken up a programme of setting up of CAD Centres to provide design development and support to powerloom sector. So far, 17 such CAD centers have been set up under different Textile Research Associations.

(viii) Under the scheme of setting up/ upgradation/ modernization/ strengthening of laboratories launched from 1995-96, a total of 41 laboratories have been modernized/ strengthened so far.

(ix) The import of a large number of garment machinery has been allowed under concessional custom duty of 5%.

(x) Foreign equity participation upto 100% through automatic route, in the textile sector with certain exceptions, has been allowed.

(xi) DEPB rates for certain textile products have been rationalized.

(xii) Relaxations under the Quota Policy have been recently announced to help exporters.